

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1 - 20 and insert new claims 21 - 22 as follows:

Claims 1 - 20. (Cancelled)

21. (New) A method for access control in a communications network including a first wireless unit, a second wireless unit and at least one further unit, comprising the steps of:

generating, by the first unit, a frame including a first portion including data indicating that the first unit is establishing a direct communication channel with the second unit and a second portion including data for the second unit;

transmitting the first portion to the second unit and the at least one further wireless unit; and

establishing a direct communication channel between the first and second units to transmit the second portion, the first portion directing the at least one further unit to abstain from communication using the direct communication channel during transmission of the second portion.

22. (New) A system, comprising:

a first wireless unit;

a second wireless unit; and

at least one further unit,

wherein the first unit generates (i) a first portion including data indicating that the first unit is establishing a direct communication channel and (ii) a second portion including data for the second unit, the first portion including a command to the at least one further unit to abstain from communications during transmission of the second portion, and

wherein the first unit transmits the first portion to the second unit and the at least one further unit, the first unit establishing a direct communication channel and transmitting the second portion to the second unit.